

**To:** Pete Brownell[Pete.Brownell@brownells.com]  
**From:** Paul Erickson  
**Sent:** 2015-11-18T19:08:51Z  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: Call of Duty.  
**Received:** 2015-11-18T19:10:45Z

You may call at ANY hour of ANY day about ANY topic! Get used to the power of an emerging national political player!!

Paul  
[REDACTED] (cell)

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**From:** Pete Brownell [mailto:Pete.Brownell@brownells.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 18, 2015 1:39 PM  
**To:** Paul Erickson <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Call of Duty.

Quick acknowledgment of call and this email AND developing situation.

Much to discuss. Are you open later in the day? Probably 5:30 CST?

Sent from my iPhone  
Brownells  
[REDACTED]

On Nov 18, 2015, at 10:07 AM, Paul Erickson <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Pete,

We have a situation. And it might require your (early) leadership to save the day for the NRA.

What I'm about to write is confidential, but having met you I believe that I can trust your discretion. Further, I'm unaware of how much of the following information is already known to you – following (much less managing) NRA Board politics remains a dark art to me. As with many critical elements within the vast right wing conspiracy, I remain outside until it is necessary to go inside. This may be one of those moments.

As you know from your discussions with Maria Butina, she and Russian Central Bank Deputy Governor Alexander Torshin (but mostly Maria) have been slaving away for several months preparing a truly "Nixon goes to China" itinerary for a senior NRA delegation to Moscow next month. This has been a dream and happy burden for David Keene for a couple of years.

JUST as the agenda was being finalized this week, President Cors announces – VERY privately – to David that a chronic health issue must now force Cors to abandon the trip. Cors further explained that he had hoped to keep this health issue under wraps until sometime in 2016 – foreshadowing a clear drastic reduction in his public NRA

schedule if not early abdication of his office. (With uncertain effects upon NRA succession.)

This has caught Keene totally off guard and could have disastrous consequences for the trip – and for our young Maria and the future of her “The Right to Bear Arms” organization. Keene is so angry that he is close to ending his friendship with Cors over what Keene views as Cors’ duplicity in keeping this health information from the powers that be.

Russia is very old world when it comes to diplomatic protocols. Many of the spectacular meetings and events that Maria has arranged for the NRA’s four days in Moscow (listed below) were predicated on the highest level government officials getting to meet “the President of the most influential political organization in America.” Russians don’t take “seconds in command.”

But they DO respect “presidents in waiting.” Torshin and Butina believe that the entire NRA itinerary – private meetings with the top ministers in Putin’s government and private lunches in oligarch’s dachas – could be preserved if YOU were to assume the place of Cors as leader of the delegation December 9 – 12. The NEXT President of the NRA – who would assume office at the same time as the NEXT American President – is a man that the Kremlin (and Russian arms manufacturers) want to meet.

Is this even a remote possibility for you and your personal and professional schedule??

You would NOT have to travel to Israel in advance of Moscow with the surviving members of the NRA delegation (unless you’d like to). You WOULD benefit greatly from arriving in Moscow a few days ahead of the delegation to take advantage of the private meetings that Maria has offered you with Russian arms manufacturers located outside of Moscow. You WOULD be hailed by the Russians for your gracious diplomatic “save” . . . as well as for your youth and vigor. (In Russia, these things matter.)

There are a couple of other personal considerations that must factor into your decision – use this information as you see fit. In replacing Cors, you would also assume his Russian media opportunities – exclusive interviews with the leading newspapers, hunting magazines and television stations. RT TV (Russia Today) has offered an unedited one-hour interview that would air throughout Russia and the world (RT is carried on many American cable channels). One of the oligarchs that would host you not only operates his own “Cors tank farm,” but he charts exclusive hunting trips to the outermost regions of Russia. “Join Pete Brownell in bagging a Russian bear . . .” has a nice “Ring of Freedom” new donor air about it . . . .

And impressing the NRA’s Russian hosts is also the quickest way to secure a private interview with President Putin on behalf of David Keene and the Washington Times – a plum that was dangled in front of Keene by Torshin himself during a recent Torshin visit to Washington, DC. High stakes all around.

Here’s all I ask: Call me to discuss PRIVATELY AND OFF THE RECORD this constellation of issues and your willingness or ability to step in and lead this delegation. There are some

finer NRA protocol points best not made in e-mails. I have NOT been involved in ANY aspect of this trip's planning but have closely watched ALL parties as it's come together. NO ONE has asked me to reach out to you — and Maria has NOT yet informed ANY Russian figure of the possibility of Cors' absence. Nor should she until and unless she has a solution. I believe that YOU are that solution.

As we discussed over lunch in Iowa, Russia believes that high level contacts with the NRA might be the BEST means of neutral introduction to either the next American President OR to a meaningful re-set in relations with the Congress under a (God forbid) President Clinton. This simple good will trip would have enormous diplomatic consequences for a future U.S. / Russia bilateral relationship to the world.

Glance at the highlighted meetings below and your schedule — then let's talk about how this might work. If you decline for any reason, NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW THAT YOU WERE CONTACTED. If you have ALREADY been contacted by Keene (the smartest operator I know), I apologize for the duplication of effort.

Paul

[REDACTED] (cell)

P.S. The other notable members of the delegation include David & Donna Keene, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Gregory, Sheriff David Clarke and his wife and a "Ring of Freedom" donor couple. Wayne LaPierre remains — as always — unavailable for these kinds of travels.

#### Itinerary Highlights as of Last Week:

\*A private meeting with the First Secretary of the Russian Security Counsel (the man that advises President Putin on a daily basis on all security and military affairs — the equal to the American "National Security Advisor").

\*A private meeting with the First Deputy Prime Minister responsible for the productions of ALL Russian arms — the unofficial leader of the Russian military industrial complex.

\*A private meeting in the Kremlin with the Russian Foreign Minister.

\*A private dinner at the hunting estate of the leading media oligarch in all of Russia. He owns 84 newspapers that print 28 million daily copies in 12 countries (including all six of Russian largest hunting magazines). He has served for 10 years as the president of the association of Russian journalists and is the unofficial media advisor to President Putin. His good word — along with Torshin's — can secure a personal interview with President Putin for the Washington Times.

\*The founder of the most important PR firm in Russia — who runs President Putin's presidential campaigns — is going to personally cook lunch for your

delegation (he is a gourmet) at his estate.

\*A private tour of the tank farm / military museum owned by Russia's leading commercial real estate oligarch — the Russian Cors — who also owns travel companies that arrange VIP hunting trips to the outermost regions of Russia.

\*Finally, the oligarch that has personally funded Butina's "The Right To Bear Arms" for several years is attending either the PR firm lunch or the summit in Stalin's Bunker between the NRA delegation and "The Right to Bear Arms." If he is disappointed by the absence of a key member of the delegation, this could affect his future support of Maria's organization.

**Pete Brownell**  
Chief Executive Officer



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